

Serial No.: 09/725,115
Atty. Docket No.: P66115US0

REMARKS

The Final Office Action mailed March 28, 2005 (Paper No. 03072005), has been carefully reviewed and by this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 22, 27 and 28. Claims 4, 6, 7, 9-25, 27 and 28 are pending in the application; claims 22, 27 and 28 are independent. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration in this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 6, 7, 9-25, 27 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,149,438 to Richard et al. ("Richard").

As set forth in amended claims 22, 27 and 28, the present invention is directed to a computer-based training method, carried out by a client computer used by a student, in which a server dynamically downloads training content to the client computer in response to student instructions received by the client computer. The training content is part of a course, and the downloading is conducted dynamically and incrementally, when and as the student requests additional training content, such that the entire course is not downloaded as a whole, but in portions. This reduces the memory requirements of the client computer, and also ensures that the student receives the most current course modifications which

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may be ongoing at the server level on those portions of the course which have not yet been downloaded.

In addition, the server downloads a control program, a content data file, and a navigation frame program to the client computer. The control program controls execution of the course on the client computer using the downloaded training content, as well as further course training content received dynamically from the server in response to subsequent student requests received as the course is being conducted.

The student can navigate through the course by providing inputs to a navigation frame generated by the navigation frame program. In response to each student input requesting additional course content, the navigation frame program notifies the control program. *The control program* as previously downloaded to the client computer *determines the location of the additional training content for the course on the server according to a content map address contained in the content data file.* Upon reading this map address to determine the additional course content location, the control program uploads a request to the server for the additional content. This downloading of the control program, content data file, and navigation frame program to the client computer, and the operation thereof to find and request additional

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course content so that the entire course is not downloaded as a whole, is not shown or suggested by Richard.

Richard, discloses a client/server environment in which the entire course is downloaded as a unit while course control remains in the course control module 309 at the server level (see column 5, lines 34-36; column 6, lines 50-53). Because Richard is directed to the downloading of courses as units, Richard does not teach the downloading of a control program having the capabilities being claimed by the present invention.

More particularly, Richard does not teach the downloading of a control program and a *content data file that contains a content map address which identifies the location of additional course training content and which is read by the downloaded control program to determine such location* and then upload a request for the additional training content to the server. Nor does Richard suggest this downloading of a content map address identifying the location of portions of the course not yet downloaded because, as already noted, Richard downloads each course as an entire unit. Instead, Richard clearly teaches that *the server, in response to a client course request, searches for the course material* (see column 4, line 64 to column 5, line 17; column 6, lines 10-20). This is logical because the course material being searched for is *another*

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course, not portions of a current course that has been only partially downloaded, such that the identity of an additional course (which would presumably be one of many available courses) would not be known until it was requested by the client. (That there are many course options available is supported by the fact that the server determines whether the client is authorized to receive the requested course (see column 6, lines 14-21).) Therefore, in Richard there is no need for a content data file with content map address because the entire course has already been downloaded, and therefore it would not have been obvious to modify Richard to include this feature as presently set forth in amended claims 22, 27 and 28.

With the present invention, because the individual course is downloaded in portions, the content data file contains the map address of the portions of course material not yet downloaded so that such material may be expeditiously requested and downloaded as needed, with no need for searching by the server.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 22, 27 and 28 are patentable over the prior art. Claims 4, 6, 7, 9-21 and 23-25 are also in condition for allowance as claims properly dependent on an allowable base claim and for the subject matter contained therein.

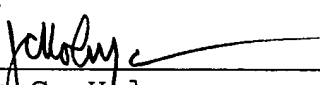
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As the foregoing Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, entry thereof after Final Action and allowance of the application are requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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